

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 OES-03 COME-00 CIAE-00 FBIE-00

INSE-00 NSAE-00 CU-02 SAM-01 SS-15 NSC-05 /044 W

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R 290900Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 716

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 4390

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA, OVIP, MY

SUBJ: VISIT OF PETRONAS CHAIRMAN TO U.S.

REF: STATE 176603

1. WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT RAZALEIGH BE INVITED TO WASHINGTON FOR INFORMAL TALKS WITH SENIOR OFFICIALS. VARIOUS PETROLEUM ISSUES ARE BY NO MEANS DEAD ALTHOUGH CURRENTLY MUTED. IN ANY CONVERSATIONS THESE COULD BE QUIETLY EXPLORED BUT FRONTAL ASSAULT ON RAZALEIGH WOULD ALMOST SURELY BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. FURTHERMORE, RAZALEIGH IS INDEED SENIOR MEMBER OF UMNO RULING GROUP AND REPORTEDLY RAZAK'S CHOICE TO BE HIS SUCCESSOR AS PRIME MINISTER AFTER A FEW YEARS. TALKS SHOULD BE AIMED AT EDUCATING RAZALEIGH ON U.S. ATTITUDES ON MAJOR ISSUES, POLITICAL AS WELL AS ECONOMIC, AND ELICITING HIS VIEWS ON SAME, INCLUDING RESOURCES, ROLE OF PRIVATE FOREIGN INVESTMENT, AND DYNAMICS OF ASEAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION.

2. WE RECOMMEND THAT RAZALEIGH SEE DEPUTY SECRETARY INGERSOLL, ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB, AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS. GIVEN BACKGROUND BY DEPUTY SECRETARY HE WOULD BE PARTICULARLY EFFECTIVE IN DISCUSSING SUBJECTS SUCH AS ROLE OF PRIVATE INVESTMENT, WITH RAZALEIGH.
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